

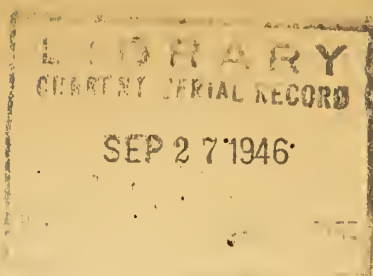
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: F A M I N E C A M P A I G N R O U N D U P :

FOOD NO LONGER EUROPE'S NO. 1 PROBLEM

Coal has replaced food as the No. 1 relief problem in Europe, according to two Department of Agriculture officials who have recently returned from Europe. Nathan Koenig, executive assistant to Secretary of Agriculture Anderson was a member of the U. S. delegation attending the UNRRA council meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. Both he and Robert H. Shields, PMA Administrator, visited several other European countries.

On the whole, Europe is in position to eat better than last year. In fact, crops are expected to average about 80 percent of prewar, and the resulting improvement in food prospects should reduce this winter's demands much below last year. With UNRRA procurement operations scheduled to stop at the end of this year, various European governments are faced with the responsibility of making certain that supplies from their own production are spread out to cover the whole year, supplemented by such foods from other sources as they can import.

The coal output, on the other hand, was said to be sharply down from prewar. Since coal is needed to operate plants producing fertilizer, this situation may be expected to hold up agricultural as well as industrial recovery. The lack of exchange and of export trade and almost complete destruction of internal transportation in many areas also are delaying Europe's comeback.

Here is the situation as the two Agriculture officials see it:

1. Agricultural production in some countries is up to prewar, although fertilizer is badly needed. In the American Zone in Germany, a remarkable job has been done in encouraging home gardening.
2. Some nitrogen for fertilizer is being produced by plants put into operation by the armed forces. Lack of coal to operate steel plants is holding up production of phosphates, a byproduct of steel mills' slag. Lack of transportation is blocking imports of phosphate from North Africa. Potash from mines within the Russian Zone are being furnished other countries.

3. Drought has hit a large section of Romania and parts of the Ukraine, cutting corn prospects from 5 million tons to one million. Farmers are liquidating livestock, some selling at as little as one cent a pound.
4. The shortage of young men is apparent; war casualties and forced labor details have left only women and old men to do the work, particularly in Austria. Proper distribution of foodstuffs is severely affected by great shifts in population.

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FARM PRICES AND WORLD NUTRITION -- PROBLEMS FOR FUTURE,

SAYS DODD

An international program for the stabilization of agricultural prices at levels fair to producers and consumers, which will bring about improvement of nutrition throughout the world, has been recommended by N. E. Dodd, Undersecretary of Agriculture, at the FAO Conference in Copenhagen. He suggested that an FAO commission be set up to work out the program in detail.

Facts to consider at the moment and in the near future are:

- (1) Further increased production because of new methods in farming;
- (2) Markets for expanded food production;
- (3) A world nutrition problem growing out of the disruption of war, and a long-time problem of providing the food needed for adequate nutrition throughout the world.

Governments of the world should plan now for the protection of producers and for better nutrition for consumers, Mr. Dodd stated. Surpluses and needs have never been evenly distributed either between countries, or between seasons or years, he added. Farmers have often suffered from war for many years after the fighting has stopped.

Food production increased one-third in the U. S. during the war because of great progress in soil conservation, extensive mechanization, and new high-yielding varieties. With further advances in food production, farmers of the U.S. and the world may have difficulty in finding adequate markets, unless means are provided to move their supplies to areas where more food is needed.

"Furthermore, unless provision is made for moving surpluses to areas of need, these same farmers may by that time be facing the threat of demoralized prices and economic disaster....I do not believe that ruinously low prices will in the end make it possible for consumers to have more food. When farm prices are low, farmers are unable to buy the products of industry and are, therefore, unable to help keep city workers employed so that they will have the money to buy food."

Some people fear that stabilization of farm prices would keep food prices above the reach of many consumers, Mr. Dodd stated. "But in the United States we have used the Commodity Credit Corporation effectively to protect farm prices, and food consumption, meantime, has increased. Our people have been eating better in the period of farm price protection than they did in the years of depression when food prices were so low that farmers by the thousands were losing their farms. Furthermore, commodity credit stocks have served as reserves against years of bad weather and poor crop-reserves that were welcome indeed during the last war."

When farmers of Europe obtain more draft power, machinery, and better seed, the time may not be too far distant when their greatest need will be for the protection of income, Mr. Dodd said. We will have to devise better methods than those used in the past to give farmers of the world fair prices, and the people better nutrition.

"Even today, in the midst of a world food emergency there are those who fear increased food production because of its possible future effects...At the same time we recognize that agricultural production must be increased if the people of the world are to have an adequate diet. This condition is not new but it is a paradox which the world can no longer afford. The solution to this problem will be essential to securing a lasting peace and a greater well being."

#### WHEAT HARVEST GOES UP 6 MILLION BUSHELS

With harvesting practically finished; the 1946 U. S. wheat crop is now estimated at an all-time record of 1,167,319,000 bushels.... a gain of nearly 7 million since the August crop report. This is 44 million bushels above the 1945 harvest.

Despite the record harvest, total U. S. wheat supplies for the 1946-47 marketing year will be less than a year ago because of the smaller carry-over. The U. S. export goal for wheat and other grains during 1946-47 is 400 million bushels, somewhat less than this country shipped abroad last year.

General 1946 crop prospects are also for a total record-breaking production, about 2 percent above 1942, the previous peak year.



### AUGUST GRAIN EXPORTS

Exports of U. S. grain and grain products during August totaled about 875,000 tons (34,379,000 bushels). They included 454,000 tons of wheat, 351,000 tons of flour, 10,155 tons of corn, 17,000 tons of grain sorghums, and 42,500 tons of oats. Plus 9,000 long tons of Canadian wheat milled in bond in the U. S., total shipments amounted to 884,000 tons. These amounts bring total grain exports since July 1, to 1,817,000 long tons (70,049,000 bushels).

Largest shipments, 248,000 tons, went to British Empire countries other than India, including the British Zone in Germany. India received 87,000 tons. Shipments to U. S. Occupation Zones totaled 147,000 tons; and deliveries to UNRRA, 143,000 tons.

Meantime, the Department of Agriculture has announced that it will discontinue buying meat and meat products, exclusive of lard for export to cash-paying foreign governments. Purchases will be made for UNRRA until the end of that program.

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### RETAILERS MADE SPLENDID CONTRIBUTION TO FEC

Some idea of the important contribution retailers throughout the country made to the Famine Emergency Campaign may be gained from the final report by the National Retail Committee.

Information about the famine crisis and the means of combating it was thoroughly disseminated to housewives through newspaper advertising and publicity, window and interior displays, and use of sponsored and donated radio time.

Scrapbooks, brochures, and other reports indicate the tremendous support given the campaign. Public rallies were held, pledge booths set up in hundreds of stores, manned by such organizations as the American Red Cross. The number of "Pledge of the American Housewife" signed is expected to exceed the 30 million planned at the outset of the campaign. Boy Scouts delivered Pledges from door to door, windows featured the Pledge, and even aerial maneuvers were utilized to inform the public of the drive to help alleviate suffering in the war-torn world.

Exclusive famine copy appearing in the daily newspapers, not including drop-ins and inserts, reached the impressive figure of 3,740 ads of nearly 5 million lines, valued at more than \$497,000.

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### POLISH CHILDREN GREET UNRRA SHIP

Philadelphia's gift of 61,000 cartons of canned food for UNRRA was greeted at the dock by 100 Polish school children. Ministries of labor and social welfare, health, education and repatriation will share the food, which will go to war-ruined citizens in the distressed areas of Poland.

The Ministry of Social Welfare's share will be distributed among 2,400,000 adults plus 300,000 mothers with babies; the Repatriation Office will divide its share among a quarter-million returning exiles, including 25,000 babies; the Education Ministry's share will aid the supplementary school feeding of 3 million children and provide food for 60,000 in orphan schools; and the Health Ministry will use its portion to aid 120,000 in hospitals and sanitoriums.

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### FAT CONSERVATION STILL NECESSARY

As Roy L. Thompson, Chairman of the Government's Price Decontrol Board, stated in his decontrol report: "Fortunately, the decision on fats and oils was an easy one. Nearly everybody agreed on what needed to be done ---industry, consumers, and Government. Price rises since June 30 were outrageous in many cases. An adequate supply of fats and oils is nowhere in sight, according to the best estimates we could find. This country, for example, is unfortunately having to halt all exports of fats and oils after the end of this year. I would imagine this is one of the commodities in which it will take supply longest to catch up with demand."

The underlining is ours, and it means that we must continue to use and reuse cooking fats and oils until they are no longer edible, and then turn them in for salvage. After all, what is used two or three times and what is saved amounts to the same as that much production.

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### ABUNDANT FOODS

Potatoes continue to head up the list of abundant foods for October. Others in plentiful supply include onions, lemons, canned citrus juice, fall apples, pears and celery. Chickens and turkeys may be abundant locally, depending on how demand is affected by supply and price of other meats.

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